



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

3101 Park
Center Drive

Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

SUBJECT: Solicitation for Fiscal Year 2004 WIC Special Project Grants

TO: WIC State Agencies

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is soliciting applications for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004 WIC Special Project Grants. FNS has set aside up to \$2 million to support WIC Special State projects. The awards will be made by September 30, 2004 as cooperative agreements.

FNS is using the same model that has been used since FY 1999, with the theme of **"Revitalizing Quality Nutrition Services in WIC (RQNS)."** Combining elements of various approaches used over the years, the model designates a specific focus area in which a range of grant projects will be possible. For the FY 2004 grants, the RQNS theme will focus on projects that address counseling methods to improve consumption of fruits and vegetables among WIC participants. Concept Papers funded in FY 2003 are assumed to meet the FY 2004 RQNS theme.

States selected for full grant funding in the FY 2004 cycle will work cooperatively as a multi-site team on complimentary projects around the RQNS theme. A lead State will be designated to coordinate the grantees participating in this intergovernmental, multi-state project. Extensive dissemination of the results of successful projects is expected so that other State agencies will have the opportunity to replicate projects and/or learn from the results.

Concept paper funding, also begun in FY 1999, will continue to be available this year as well. Concept paper funding for FY 2004 will be used to develop a concept paper into a full grant proposal for the FY 2005 solicitation cycle.

Any State agency planning to apply for FY 2004 WIC Special Project Grant funding should submit a Letter of Intent by Tuesday, June 1, 2004. State agencies that apply for FY 2004 WIC Special Project Grants may also submit applications for FY 2004 Concept Paper Development funding. The Request for Applications can be retrieved from, and submitted directly at, <http://www.grants.gov/>. Applications submitted by direct e-mail or fax will not be accepted. State agencies are allowed to receive funding for both concept paper development and for WIC Special Project Grants.

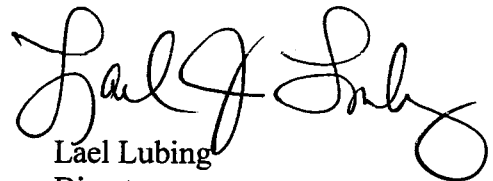
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Attached are the requests for applications for the FY 2004 WIC Special Project Grants (**Application A**) and the FY 2004 WIC Special Project Concept Paper Development (**Application B**). The submission of an application does NOT guarantee funding. Please read the contents of this package carefully to ensure that all required documents are submitted. Applications for both packages are due **no later than 5:00 p.m. E.D.T. on Thursday, July 1, 2004**. **Faxed copies will not be accepted.**

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Lisa Johnson at (703) 305-2848.



Alberta Frost
Director
Office of Analysis, Nutrition, and Evaluation



Lael Lubing
Director
Grants Management Division

Attachments (2): RFAs
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